

Application No. 09/575,429
Filed May 22, 2000
Page 2 of 10

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen, when fluid specimen is contained therein, said cup comprising:

a container used to collect the fluid specimen and made of transparent material, said container having a top opening and being of uniform circular cross section except for a recessed flat front wall;

said container having means integrated with the interior surface thereof which provide a receptacle adjacent the interior surface of said front wall,

a cassette having a substantially flat front surface slidably received within a receptacle integrated with said container and located near said flat front wall, said cassette containing at least one test strip, configured to provide an indication of a characteristic of the specimen regarding a drug of abuse, when said at least one test strip is exposed to the drug of abuse, and having a window in said flat front surface aligned with said strip, said receptacle only receiving said cassette with said window facing said flat front wall of said container so said test strip can be easily viewed through said window and said transparent flat front wall while said cassette is disposed within the container; and

a lid configured to cover said top opening with the cassette inside, wherein said receptacle extends vertically below said lid.

2. (previously presented) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen contained therein, said cup comprising a container used to collect a fluid specimen, a container lid, a cassette sealed and received in a receptacle integrated with said container, said cassette further containing chemical strips means to provide an indication of a characteristic of said specimen regarding drugs of abuse, wherein a bottom floor of said container slopes

Application No. 09/575,429
Filed May 22, 2000
Page 3 of 10

downwardly at 1-3° towards the bottom of said cassette allowing said specimen to be channeled towards said cassette.

3. (currently amended) A specimen cup for testing fluid specimen contained therein, said cup comprising a container used to collect a fluid specimen and made of transparent material, which container has a uniform circular cross section except for a recessed flat front face, said container having means integrated with the interior surface thereof which provide a receptacle adjacent the interior surface of said front wall, a container lid, and a sealed cassette which is received within a receptacle integrated with said container, said cassette having a substantially flat front surface and containing chemical strips means to provide an indication of a characteristic of said specimen regarding drugs of abuse, wherein said receptacle locates said cassette within said container with said flat front surface near the said recessed flat front face so that a viewing area is provided close to said cassette front surface so said test strip can be easily viewed through said window and said transparent flat front wall while said cassette is disposed within the container.

4. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 3, wherein said cassette has a window in said front flat surface in association with said chemical strips and is slidably inserted into said receptacle, which receptacle has different opposite channels that mate with only one of said cassette's outside edges and orient said cassette for proper testing and viewing with said window facing said flat front face of said container.

5. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 3, wherein said chemical strips comprise test strips used to test for THC, COC, MAP, PCP and MOR.

Application No. 09/575,429
Filed May 22, 2000
Page 4 of 10

6. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 3, wherein said cassette comprises a plurality of isolated test channels which each house one of said chemical strips for testing for one drug of abuse.

7. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 6, wherein each of said isolated test channels has a clear, sealed window associated therewith in said flat front surface for viewing the results of a test.

8. (currently amended) A specimen cup as in Claim 7, wherein said clear, sealed window is formed by a ~~transport~~ transparent fluid-resistant sheet laying on top of said strip to prevent fluid specimen from accidentally spilling and contaminating said strip.

9-10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 3, wherein said cup is constructed of a material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastics, specialty plastics, thermosets, and engineering plastics.

12. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 11, wherein said thermoplastics is selected from the group consisting of polyamideimide (PAI), polyethersulfone (PES), polyarylsulfone (PAS), polyetherimide (PEI), polyarylate (PAR), polysulfone (PSO), polyamide (PA), polycarbonate (PC), styrene-maleic anhydride (SMA), chlorinated PVC (CPVC), poly(methylmethacrylate) (PMMA), styrene-acrylonitrile (SAN), polystyrene (PS), acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS), poly(ethyleneterephthalate) (PET), poly(vinylchloride) (PVC), polyetherketone (PEK), polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE), poly(phenylene sulfide) (PPS), liquid crystal polymer

Application No. 09/575,429
Filed May 22, 2000
Page 5 of 10

(CCP), nylon-6,6, nylon-6, nylon-6,12 nylon-11, nylon 12, acetal resin, low and high density polypropylene (PP), high density polyethylene (HDPE), low density polyethylene (LDPE), polystyrene, ethylene-vinyl acetate, poly-vinyl-acetate and polyacrylic.

13-15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) A specimen cup for testing a fluid specimen contained therein, said cup comprising a container used to collect a fluid specimen, said container being of uniform circular cross section except for a flat front wall and having a receptacle integrally formed in the interior surface thereof at a location adjacent the interior surface of said flat front wall, a container lid, a cassette having a sealed window in a substantially flat front surface thereof, which cassette is removably receivable in a said receptacle in said container, said cassette containing chemical strips to provide an indication of a characteristic of said specimen regarding drugs of abuse, and a dam structure attached to said cassette and located so as to form a recessed pooling area in said cassette when said fluid specimen flows into said cassette's open bottom end portion to form said pooling area, said pooling area being configured to expose said cassette's interior test strips to the fluid specimen, while recessing the exposed portion of said test strips sufficiently within said cassette to minimize potential contamination of the test strips.

17. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 16, wherein a bottom floor of said container slopes downwardly at 1-3° towards the bottom of said receptacle, said floor being configured to allow said specimen to be channeled towards said cassette.

18. (canceled)

Application No. 09/575,429
Filed May 22, 2000
Page 6 of 10

19. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 3, further comprising a hinged flap adjacent to a rim of said container, the hinged portion of the flap being affixed to an interior surface of said container in a position which partially blocks the opening of said container, said flap being configured to reduce the splashing of said fluid specimen during collection, testing, transport and storage.

20. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 3, further comprising a floating member configured to substantially fill a volume directly above said fluid specimen once said fluid specimen is entered into said cup, said floating member being configured to reduce the splashing of said fluid specimen during collection, testing, transport and storage.

21. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 3, further comprising a dam structure attached to said cassette and located so as to form a recessed pooling area in said cassette when said fluid specimen flows into said cassette's open bottom end portion to form said pooling area, said pooling area being configured to expose said chemical strips to the fluid specimen, while recessing the exposed portion of said chemical strips sufficiently within said cassette to minimize potential contamination of said chemical strips.

22. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 3, wherein said lid is constructed to mate with a rim of said container and provide a substantially sealed closure.

23. (previously presented) A specimen cup as in Claim 22, wherein said lid is independent of said container.

24. (currently amended) A specimen cup for testing a fluid specimen contained therein, which cup comprises:

Application No. 09/575,429
Filed May 22, 2000
Page 7 of 10

a container used to collect a fluid specimen, which container is made of transparent material, has a top opening, is of uniform circular cross section except for a recessed flat front wall, and has a receptacle integrated with the interior surface of said container and located near said flat front wall,

a cassette proportioned for insertion into said receptacle, which cassette contains at least one test strip that is created to provide an indication of the presence of a chemical component, for which said specimen is being tested, when said test strip is exposed to the component with said cassette being disposed within said receptacle within said container,

said cassette having a window in a substantially flat front surface which window is aligned with said test strip and side edge regions of said cassette and said receptacle being constructed to only receive said cassette with said window facing said flat front wall so said test strip can be easily viewed through said window and said transparent flat front wall while said cassette is disposed within the container; and

a lid configured to close said top opening with said cassette disposed within said receptacle inside the container.

25. (previously presented) The specimen cup of claim 24 wherein said window is sealed against liquid entry.

26. (previously presented) The specimen cup of claim 24 wherein said receptacle slidably receives said cassette and said cassette has different channels formed along its opposite side edges which mate with said receptacle in only one orientation so that said window faces said flat front wall.